General Assembly

Distr.: General
10 December 2013

Sixty-eighth session
Agenda item 99 (*v*)

Resolution adopted by the General Assembly on 5 December 2013

[*on the report of the First Committee (A/68/411)*]

68/45. Implementation of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons and on Their Destruction

The General Assembly,

Recalling its previous resolutions on the subject of chemical weapons, in particular resolution 67/54 of 3 December 2012, adopted without a vote, in which the General Assembly noted with appreciation the ongoing work to achieve the object and purpose of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons and on Their Destruction,[1]

Determined to achieve the effective prohibition of the development, production, acquisition, transfer, stockpiling and use of chemical weapons and their destruction,

Noting that, since the adoption of resolution 67/54, two additional States have acceded to the Convention, namely, Somalia and the Syrian Arab Republic, bringing the total number of States parties to the Convention to 190,

Taking note of the report of the United Nations Mission to Investigate Allegations of the Use of Chemical Weapons in the Syrian Arab Republic on the alleged use of chemical weapons in the Ghouta area of Damascus on 21 August 2013,[2] in which the Mission concludes that chemical weapons have been used in the ongoing conflict between the parties in the Syrian Arab Republic, as well as against civilians, including children, on a relatively large scale,

Condemning in the strongest possible terms the use of chemical weapons,

Taking note of decision EC-M-33/DEC.1 of 27 September 2013 of the Executive Council of the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons and of Security Council resolution 2118 (2013) of the same date,

[1] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1974, No. 33757.
[2] A/67/997-S/2013/553.

Please recycle

Reaffirming the importance of the outcome of the Third Special Session of the Conference of the States Parties to Review the Operation of the Chemical Weapons Convention, held in The Hague from 8 to 19 April 2013 (the Third Review Conference), including its consensus final report, in which the Conference addressed all aspects of the Convention and made important recommendations on its continued implementation,

Emphasizing that the Third Review Conference welcomed the fact that the Convention is a unique multilateral agreement banning an entire category of weapons of mass destruction in a non-discriminatory and verifiable manner under strict and effective international control and noted with satisfaction that the Convention continues to be a remarkable success and an example of effective multilateralism,

Convinced that the Convention, 16 years after its entry into force, has reinforced its role as the international norm against chemical weapons, and that it constitutes a major contribution to:

(*a*) International peace and security,

(*b*) Eliminating chemical weapons and preventing their re-emergence,

(*c*) The ultimate objective of general and complete disarmament under strict and effective international control,

(*d*) Excluding completely, for the sake of all mankind, the possibility of the use of chemical weapons,

(*e*) Promoting international cooperation and exchange in scientific and technical information in the field of chemical activities among States parties for peaceful purposes in order to enhance the economic and technological development of all States parties,

1. *Emphasizes* that the universality of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons and on Their Destruction[1] is essential to achieving its object and purpose and to enhancing the security of States parties, as well as to international peace and security, underlines that the objectives of the Convention will not be fully realized as long as there remains even a single State not party to the Convention that could possess or acquire such weapons, and calls upon all States that have not yet done so to become parties to the Convention without delay;

2. *Underlines* that the full, effective and non-discriminatory implementation of all articles of the Convention makes a major contribution to international peace and security through the elimination of existing stockpiles of chemical weapons and the prohibition of their acquisition and use, and provides for assistance and protection in the event of use or threat of use of chemical weapons and for international cooperation for peaceful purposes in the field of chemical activities;

3. *Notes* the impact of scientific and technological progress on the effective implementation of the Convention and the importance for the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons and its policymaking organs of taking due account of such developments;

4. *Reaffirms* that the obligation of the States parties to complete the destruction of chemical weapons stockpiles and the destruction or conversion of chemical weapons production facilities in accordance with the provisions of the Convention and the Annex on Implementation and Verification (Verification Annex)

and under the verification of the Technical Secretariat of the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons is essential for the realization of the object and purpose of the Convention;

5. *Stresses* the importance to the Convention that all possessors of chemical weapons, chemical weapons production facilities or chemical weapons development facilities, including previously declared possessor States, should be among the States parties to the Convention, and welcomes progress to that end;

6. *Recalls* that the Third Special Session of the Conference of the States Parties to Review the Operation of the Chemical Weapons Convention, held in The Hague from 8 to 19 April 2013 (the Third Review Conference) expressed concern regarding the statement made by the Director-General of the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons in his report to the Executive Council of the Organization at its sixty-eighth session, provided in accordance with paragraph 2 of decision C-16/DEC.11 of 1 December 2011 adopted by the Conference of the States Parties at its sixteenth session, that three possessor States parties, namely, Libya, the Russian Federation and the United States of America, had been unable to fully meet the final extended deadline of 29 April 2012 for the destruction of their chemical weapons stockpiles, and also expressed determination that the destruction of all categories of chemical weapons should be completed in the shortest time possible in accordance with the provisions of the Convention and the Verification Annex, and with the full application of the relevant decisions that have been taken;

7. *Notes with concern* that, along with the threat of the possible production, acquisition and use of chemical weapons by States, the international community also faces the danger of the production, acquisition and use of chemical weapons by non-State actors, including terrorists, concerns which have highlighted the necessity of achieving universal adherence to the Convention, as well as the high level of readiness of the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons, and stresses that the full and effective implementation of all provisions of the Convention, including those on national implementation (article VII) and assistance and protection (article X), constitutes an important contribution to the efforts of the United Nations in the global fight against terrorism in all its forms and manifestations;

8. *Emphasizes* that the full implementation of the provisions of the Convention at the national level, including the timely submission of accurate and complete declarations in accordance with the provisions of the Convention, and updates to those declarations, is essential to ensuring the efficiency and effectiveness of the Convention regime;

9. *Notes* that the effective application of the verification system builds confidence in compliance with the Convention by States parties;

10. *Stresses* the importance of the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons in verifying compliance with the provisions of the Convention as well as in promoting the timely and efficient accomplishment of all its objectives;

11. *Urges* all States parties to the Convention to meet in full and on time their obligations under the Convention and to support the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons in its implementation activities;

12. *Welcomes* progress made in the national implementation of article VII obligations, commends the States parties and the Technical Secretariat for assisting other States parties, on request, with the implementation of the follow-up to the plan of action regarding article VII obligations, urges States parties that have not fulfilled

their obligations under article VII to do so without further delay, in accordance with their constitutional processes, and notes that the Third Review Conference noted the commitment of States parties to adopt, in accordance with constitutional processes, the measures necessary to fully implement their obligations under the Convention as a matter of priority and to keep the effectiveness of these measures under review;

13. *Emphasizes* the continuing relevance and importance of the provisions of article X of the Convention, welcomes the activities of the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons in relation to assistance and protection against chemical weapons, supports further efforts by both States parties and the Technical Secretariat to promote a high level of readiness to respond to chemical weapons threats as articulated in article X, and welcomes the effectiveness and efficiency of the increased focus on making full use of regional and subregional capacities and expertise, including taking advantage of established training centres;

14. *Acknowledges with appreciation* the establishment of the International Support Network for Victims of Chemical Weapons and of a voluntary trust fund for that purpose;

15. *Reaffirms* that the provisions of the Convention shall be implemented in a manner that avoids hampering the economic or technological development of States parties and international cooperation in the field of chemical activities for purposes not prohibited under the Convention, including the international exchange of scientific and technical information, and chemicals and equipment for the production, processing or use of chemicals for purposes not prohibited under the Convention;

16. *Underlines* that the comprehensive implementation of article XI of the Convention reinforces capacity-building in each State party and, in doing so, reinforces the ability of States parties to fully implement the Convention, and in this context also underlines the importance of assistance and national capacity-building in the field of chemical activities for purposes not prohibited under the Convention;

17. *Commends* the adoption of decision C-16/DEC.10 of 1 December 2011 on the components of an agreed framework for the full implementation of article XI by the Conference of the States Parties at its sixteenth session, and recognizes that the decision provides guidance for the full, effective and non-discriminatory implementation of article XI and identifies avenues for further work that would advance its objectives;

18. *Notes with appreciation* the ongoing work of the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons to achieve the object and purpose of the Convention, to ensure the full implementation of its provisions, including those for international verification of compliance with it, and to provide a forum for consultation and cooperation among States parties;

19. *Commends* the desire expressed at the Third Review Conference to improve interaction with the chemical industry, the scientific community, academia and civil society organizations engaged in issues relevant to the Convention, and to cooperate as appropriate with other relevant international and regional organizations, in promoting the goals of the Convention;

20. *Welcomes* the cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons within the framework of the

relationship agreement between the United Nations and the Organization,[3] in accordance with the provisions of the Convention;

21. *Also welcomes* the awarding of the Nobel Peace Prize for 2013 to the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons for its extensive efforts to eliminate chemical weapons;

22. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-ninth session, under the item entitled "General and complete disarmament", the sub-item entitled "Implementation of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons and on Their Destruction".

60th plenary meeting
5 December 2013

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[3] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2160, No. 1240.

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Sixty-eighth session
Agenda item 99 (*w*)

Resolution adopted by the General Assembly on 5 December 2013

[*on the report of the First Committee (A/68/411)*]

68/46. Taking forward multilateral nuclear disarmament negotiations

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 67/56 of 3 December 2012, by which the General Assembly established the Open-ended Working Group to develop proposals to take forward multilateral nuclear disarmament negotiations for the achievement and maintenance of a world without nuclear weapons,

Deeply concerned about the catastrophic humanitarian consequences of any use of nuclear weapons,

Recalling the Declaration of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly, the first special session devoted to disarmament,[1] in which it is stated, inter alia, that all the peoples of the world have a vital interest in the success of disarmament negotiations and that all States have the right to participate in disarmament negotiations,

Reaffirming the role and functions of the Conference on Disarmament and the Disarmament Commission, as set out in the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly,[2]

Recalling the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[3] in which it is stated, inter alia, that responsibility for managing worldwide economic and social development, as well as threats to international peace and security, must be shared among the nations of the world and should be exercised multilaterally and that, as the most universal and most representative organization in the world, the United Nations must play the central role,

[1] Resolution S-10/2, sect. II.

[2] Ibid., sect. IV.

[3] Resolution 55/2.

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Welcoming the efforts of Member States to secure progress in multilateral disarmament and the support of the Secretary-General for such efforts, and noting in this regard the Secretary-General's five-point proposal on nuclear disarmament,

Recalling the outcome, including the action points, of the 2010 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons,[4]

Reaffirming the absolute validity of multilateral diplomacy in the field of disarmament and non-proliferation, and determined to promote multilateralism as an essential way to develop arms regulation and disarmament negotiations,

Recognizing the absence of concrete outcomes of multilateral nuclear disarmament negotiations within the United Nations framework for more than a decade,

Recognizing also the increased political attention to disarmament and non-proliferation issues and that the international political climate is more conducive to the promotion of multilateral disarmament and moving towards the goal of a world without nuclear weapons,

Welcoming the high-level meeting of the General Assembly on nuclear disarmament, held on 26 September 2013 pursuant to its resolution 67/39 of 3 December 2012, which highlighted the wish of the international community for progress in this field,

Emphasizing the importance and urgency of substantive progress on priority disarmament and non-proliferation issues,

Recognizing the important contribution that civil society makes to multilateral disarmament, non-proliferation and arms control processes,

Mindful of Article 11 of the Charter of the United Nations concerning the functions and powers of the General Assembly to consider and make recommendations with regard to, inter alia, disarmament,

1. *Notes with satisfaction* that the Open-ended Working Group to develop proposals to take forward multilateral nuclear disarmament negotiations for the achievement and maintenance of a world without nuclear weapons, established by the General Assembly by its resolution 67/56, which met during 2013 as a step towards taking forward multilateral nuclear disarmament negotiations, engaged in discussions in an open, constructive, transparent and interactive manner to address various issues related to nuclear disarmament;

2. *Welcomes* the report of the Working Group on its work,[5] reflecting the discussions and proposals made during its deliberations to take forward multilateral nuclear disarmament negotiations for the achievement and maintenance of a world without nuclear weapons;

3. *Recognizes* the value of the contribution that international organizations, civil society, academia and research make to taking forward multilateral nuclear disarmament negotiations, as demonstrated during the work of the Working Group;

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[4] *2010 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, Final Document*, vols. I–III (NPT/CONF.2010/50 (Vols. I–III)).

[5] A/68/514.

4. *Emphasizes* that the universal objective of taking forward multilateral nuclear disarmament negotiations remains the achievement and maintenance of a world without nuclear weapons, and also emphasizes the importance of addressing issues related to nuclear weapons in a comprehensive, interactive and constructive manner, for the advancement of multilateral nuclear disarmament negotiations;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to transmit the report of the Working Group to the Conference on Disarmament and the Disarmament Commission for their consideration;

6. *Calls upon* all Member States, international organizations and civil society to continue to enrich the discussions on how to take forward multilateral nuclear disarmament negotiations in the United Nations bodies in which disarmament and peace and security are addressed, taking into account the report of the Working Group and the proposals contained therein;

7. *Encourages* Member States, international organizations and civil society to take into account the report of the Working Group and the proposals contained therein in the discussions in other forums in which humanitarian, health, human rights, environmental and development affairs are addressed;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to seek the views of Member States on how to take forward multilateral nuclear disarmament negotiations, including on steps that Member States have already taken to that end, and to submit a report on that subject to the General Assembly at its sixty-ninth session;

9. *Decides* to review at its sixty-ninth session progress made in the implementation of the present resolution and to further explore options for taking forward multilateral nuclear disarmament negotiations, including if necessary through the Working Group;

10. *Reaffirms* the urgency of securing substantive progress in multilateral nuclear disarmament negotiations, and welcomes further efforts in this respect;

11. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-ninth session, under the item entitled "General and complete disarmament", the sub-item entitled "Taking forward multilateral nuclear disarmament negotiations".

60th plenary meeting
5 December 2013

General Assembly

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Sixty-eighth session
Agenda item 99 (*aa*)

Resolution adopted by the General Assembly on 5 December 2013

[*on the report of the First Committee (A/68/411)*]

68/47. Nuclear disarmament

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 49/75 E of 15 December 1994 on a step-by-step reduction of the nuclear threat, and its resolutions 50/70 P of 12 December 1995, 51/45 O of 10 December 1996, 52/38 L of 9 December 1997, 53/77 X of 4 December 1998, 54/54 P of 1 December 1999, 55/33 T of 20 November 2000, 56/24 R of 29 November 2001, 57/79 of 22 November 2002, 58/56 of 8 December 2003, 59/77 of 3 December 2004, 60/70 of 8 December 2005, 61/78 of 6 December 2006, 62/42 of 5 December 2007, 63/46 of 2 December 2008, 64/53 of 2 December 2009, 65/56 of 8 December 2010, 66/51 of 2 December 2011 and 67/60 of 3 December 2012 on nuclear disarmament,

Reaffirming the commitment of the international community to the goal of the total elimination of nuclear weapons and the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free world,

Bearing in mind that the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction of 1972 [1] and the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons and on Their Destruction of 1993 [2] have already established legal regimes on the complete prohibition of biological and chemical weapons, respectively, and determined to achieve a nuclear weapons convention on the prohibition of the development, testing, production, stockpiling, loan, transfer, use and threat of use of nuclear weapons and on their destruction, and to conclude such an international convention at an early date,

Recognizing that there now exist conditions for the establishment of a world free of nuclear weapons, and stressing the need to take concrete practical steps towards achieving this goal,

[1] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1015, No. 14860.
[2] Ibid., vol. 1974, No. 33757.

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Bearing in mind paragraph 50 of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly, the first special session devoted to disarmament,[3] calling for the urgent negotiation of agreements for the cessation of the qualitative improvement and development of nuclear-weapon systems and for a comprehensive and phased programme with agreed time frames, wherever feasible, for the progressive and balanced reduction of nuclear weapons and their means of delivery, leading to their ultimate and complete elimination at the earliest possible time,

Reaffirming the conviction of the States parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons[4] that the Treaty is a cornerstone of nuclear non-proliferation and nuclear disarmament, and the importance of the decision on strengthening the review process for the Treaty, the decision on principles and objectives for nuclear non-proliferation and disarmament, the decision on the extension of the Treaty and the resolution on the Middle East, adopted by the 1995 Review and Extension Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons,[5]

Stressing the importance of the 13 steps for the systematic and progressive efforts to achieve the objective of nuclear disarmament leading to the total elimination of nuclear weapons, as agreed to by the States parties in the Final Document of the 2000 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons,[6]

Recognizing the important work done at the 2010 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons,[7] and affirming its action plan as an impetus to intensify work aimed at beginning negotiations for a nuclear weapons convention,

Reiterating the highest priority accorded to nuclear disarmament in the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly and by the international community,

Reiterating its call for an early entry into force of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty,[8]

Noting the entry into force of the new strategic arms reduction treaty between the Russian Federation and the United States of America, in order to achieve further deep cuts in their strategic and tactical nuclear weapons, and stressing that such cuts should be irreversible, verifiable and transparent,

Recalling the entry into force of the Treaty between the United States of America and the Russian Federation on Strategic Offensive Reductions (the Moscow Treaty)[9] as a significant step towards reducing their deployed strategic nuclear weapons, while calling for further irreversible deep cuts in their nuclear arsenals,

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[3] Resolution S-10/2.

[4] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 729, No. 10485.

[5] See *1995 Review and Extension Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, Final Document, Part I* (NPT/CONF.1995/32 (Part I) and Corr.2), annex.

[6] *2000 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, Final Document*, vol. I (NPT/CONF.2000/28 (Parts I and II)), part I, section entitled "Article VI and eighth to twelfth preambular paragraphs", para. 15.

[7] *2010 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, Final Document*, vols. I–III (NPT/CONF.2010/50 (Vols. I–III)).

[8] See resolution 50/245 and A/50/1027.

[9] See CD/1674.

Noting the positive statements by nuclear-weapon States of their intention to pursue actions in achieving a world free of nuclear weapons, while reaffirming the need for urgent concrete actions by nuclear-weapon States to achieve this goal within a specified framework of time, and urging them to take further measures for progress on nuclear disarmament,

Recognizing the complementarity of bilateral, plurilateral and multilateral negotiations on nuclear disarmament, and that bilateral negotiations can never replace multilateral negotiations in this respect,

Noting the support expressed in the Conference on Disarmament and in the General Assembly for the elaboration of an international convention to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons, and the multilateral efforts in the Conference on Disarmament to reach agreement on such an international convention at an early date,

Recalling the advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice on the legality of the threat or use of nuclear weapons, issued on 8 July 1996,[10] and welcoming the unanimous reaffirmation by all Judges of the Court that there exists an obligation for all States to pursue in good faith and bring to a conclusion negotiations leading to nuclear disarmament in all its aspects under strict and effective international control,

Mindful of paragraph 102 of the Final Document of the Ministerial Meeting of the Coordinating Bureau of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries, held in Havana from 27 to 30 April 2009,[11]

Recalling paragraph 157 and other relevant recommendations in the Final Document of the Sixteenth Conference of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries, held in Tehran from 26 to 31 August 2012,[12] in which the Conference on Disarmament was called upon to establish, as soon as possible and as the highest priority, an ad hoc committee on nuclear disarmament and to commence negotiations on a phased programme for the complete elimination of nuclear weapons within a specified framework of time, including a nuclear weapons convention,

Noting the adoption of the programme of work for the 2009 session by the Conference on Disarmament on 29 May 2009,[13] after years of stalemate, while regretting that the Conference has not been able to undertake substantive work on its agenda in 2013,

Welcoming the establishment of the informal working group with a mandate to produce a programme of work robust in substance and progressive over time in implementation by the Conference on Disarmament on 16 August 2013,

Reaffirming the importance and validity of the Conference on Disarmament as the sole multilateral negotiating forum on disarmament, and expressing the need to adopt and implement a balanced and comprehensive programme of work on the basis of its agenda and dealing with, inter alia, four core issues, in accordance with the rules of procedure,[14] and by taking into consideration the security concerns of all States,

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[10] A/51/218, annex.

[11] See A/63/858.

[12] A/67/506-S/2012/752, annex I.

[13] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 27* (A/64/27), para. 18.

[14] CD/8/Rev.9.

Reaffirming also the specific mandate conferred upon the Disarmament Commission by the General Assembly, in its decision 52/492 of 8 September 1998, to discuss the subject of nuclear disarmament as one of its main substantive agenda items,

Recalling the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[15] in which Heads of State and Government resolved to strive for the elimination of weapons of mass destruction, in particular nuclear weapons, and to keep all options open for achieving this aim, including the possibility of convening an international conference to identify ways of eliminating nuclear dangers,

Recalling also the statement on the total elimination of nuclear weapons adopted by the Sixteenth Ministerial Conference and Commemorative Meeting of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries, held in Nusa Dua, Bali, Indonesia, from 23 to 27 May 2011,[16] and recalled by the Heads of State and Government of Non-Aligned Countries at their Sixteenth Conference, in which the Movement reiterated its call for an international conference to identify ways and means of eliminating nuclear weapons at the earliest possible date,

Welcoming the successful convening of the high-level meeting of the General Assembly on nuclear disarmament on 26 September 2013, at which it was proposed that 26 September be designated the International Day for the Total Elimination of Nuclear Weapons,

Reaffirming that, in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations, States should refrain from the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons in settling their disputes in international relations,

Seized of the danger of the use of weapons of mass destruction, particularly nuclear weapons, in terrorist acts and the urgent need for concerted international efforts to control and overcome it,

1. *Recognizes* that the time is now opportune for all the nuclear-weapon States to take effective disarmament measures to achieve the total elimination of these weapons at the earliest possible time;

2. *Reaffirms* that nuclear disarmament and nuclear non-proliferation are substantively interrelated and mutually reinforcing, that the two processes must go hand in hand and that there is a genuine need for a systematic and progressive process of nuclear disarmament;

3. *Welcomes and encourages* the efforts to establish new nuclear-weapon-free zones in different parts of the world, including the establishment of a Middle East zone free of nuclear weapons, on the basis of agreements or arrangements freely arrived at among the States of the regions concerned, which is an effective measure for limiting the further spread of nuclear weapons geographically and contributes to the cause of nuclear disarmament;

4. *Welcomes* the ongoing efforts between the States members of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations and the nuclear-weapon States, and encourages the nuclear-weapon States in their early signing of the Protocol to the Treaty on the South-East Asia Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone;

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[15] Resolution 55/2.

[16] A/65/896-S/2011/407, annex V.

5. *Recognizes* that there is a genuine need to diminish the role of nuclear weapons in strategic doctrines and security policies to minimize the risk that these weapons will ever be used and to facilitate the process of their total elimination;

6. *Urges* the nuclear-weapon States to stop immediately the qualitative improvement, development, production and stockpiling of nuclear warheads and their delivery systems;

7. *Also urges* the nuclear-weapon States, as an interim measure, to de-alert and deactivate immediately their nuclear weapons and to take other concrete measures to reduce further the operational status of their nuclear-weapon systems, while stressing that reductions in deployments and in operational status cannot substitute for irreversible cuts in and the total elimination of nuclear weapons;

8. *Reiterates its call upon* the nuclear-weapon States to undertake the step-by-step reduction of the nuclear threat and to carry out effective nuclear disarmament measures with a view to achieving the total elimination of these weapons within a specified framework of time;

9. *Calls upon* the nuclear-weapon States, pending the achievement of the total elimination of nuclear weapons, to agree on an internationally and legally binding instrument on a joint undertaking not to be the first to use nuclear weapons, and calls upon all States to conclude an internationally and legally binding instrument on security assurances of non-use and non-threat of use of nuclear weapons against non-nuclear-weapon States;

10. *Urges* the nuclear-weapon States to commence plurilateral negotiations among themselves at an appropriate stage on further deep reductions of nuclear weapons as an effective measure of nuclear disarmament;

11. *Underlines* the importance of applying the principles of transparency, irreversibility and verifiability to the process of nuclear disarmament and to nuclear and other related arms control and reduction measures;

12. *Also underlines* the importance of the unequivocal undertaking by the nuclear-weapon States, in the Final Document of the 2000 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, to accomplish the total elimination of their nuclear arsenals leading to nuclear disarmament, to which all States parties are committed under article VI of the Treaty,[6] and the reaffirmation by the States parties that the total elimination of nuclear weapons is the only absolute guarantee against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons;[17]

13. *Calls for* the full and effective implementation of the 13 practical steps for nuclear disarmament contained in the Final Document of the 2000 Review Conference;

14. *Also calls for* the full implementation of the action plan as set out in the conclusions and recommendations for follow-on actions of the Final Document of the 2010 Review Conference, particularly the 22-point action plan on nuclear disarmament;[7]

[17] *2000 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, Final Document*, vol. I (NPT/CONF.2000/28 (Parts I and II)), part I, section entitled "Article VII and the security of non-nuclear-weapon States", para. 2.

15. *Urges* the nuclear-weapon States to carry out further reductions of non-strategic nuclear weapons, based on unilateral initiatives and as an integral part of the nuclear arms reduction and disarmament process;

16. *Calls for* the immediate commencement of negotiations in the Conference on Disarmament on a non-discriminatory, multilateral and internationally and effectively verifiable treaty banning the production of fissile material for nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices on the basis of the report of the Special Coordinator[18] and the mandate contained therein;

17. *Urges* the Conference on Disarmament to commence as early as possible its substantive work during its 2014 session, while welcoming the establishment of the informal working group with a mandate to produce a programme of work robust in substance and progressive over time in implementation, on the basis of a comprehensive and balanced programme of work that takes into consideration all the real and existing priorities in the field of disarmament and arms control, including the immediate commencement of negotiations on such a treaty with a view to their conclusion within five years;

18. *Calls for* the conclusion of an international legal instrument or instruments on adequate and unconditional security assurances to non-nuclear-weapon States;

19. *Also calls for* the early entry into force and strict observance of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty,[8] while welcoming the recent ratification of the Treaty by Brunei Darussalam, Chad, Guinea-Bissau and Iraq;

20. *Expresses its regret* that the Conference on Disarmament was unable to establish an ad hoc committee to deal with nuclear disarmament in 2013, as called for by the General Assembly in its resolution 67/60;

21. *Reiterates its call upon* the Conference on Disarmament to establish, as soon as possible and as the highest priority, an ad hoc committee on nuclear disarmament in 2014 and to commence negotiations on a phased programme of nuclear disarmament leading to the total elimination of nuclear weapons within a specified framework of time;

22. *Calls for* the convening of an international conference on nuclear disarmament in all its aspects at an early date to identify and deal with concrete measures of nuclear disarmament;

23. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-ninth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution;

24. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-ninth session, under the item entitled "General and complete disarmament", the sub-item entitled "Nuclear disarmament".

60th plenary meeting
5 December 2013

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[18] CD/1299.

General Assembly

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Sixty-eighth session
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Resolution adopted by the General Assembly on 5 December 2013

[*on the report of the First Committee (A/68/411)*]

68/48. The illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 67/58 of 3 December 2012, as well as all previous resolutions entitled "The illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects", including resolution 56/24 V of 24 December 2001,

Emphasizing the importance of the continued and full implementation of the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects, adopted by the United Nations Conference on the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects,[1] and recognizing its important contribution to international efforts on this matter,

Emphasizing also the importance of the continued and full implementation of the International Instrument to Enable States to Identify and Trace, in a Timely and Reliable Manner, Illicit Small Arms and Light Weapons (the International Tracing Instrument),[2]

Mindful of the implementation of the outcomes adopted by the follow-up meetings on the Programme of Action,

Recalling the commitment of States to the Programme of Action as the main framework for measures within the activities of the international community to prevent, combat and eradicate the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects,

Underlining the need for States to enhance their efforts to build national capacity for the effective implementation of the Programme of Action and the International Tracing Instrument,

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[1] *Report of the United Nations Conference on the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects, New York, 9–20 July 2001* (A/CONF.192/15), chap. IV, para. 24.

[2] See decision 60/519 and A/60/88 and Corr.2, annex.

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Welcoming the successful conclusion of the second United Nations Conference to Review Progress Made in the Implementation of the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects, held in New York from 27 August to 7 September 2012 (the Second Review Conference), and recalling the endorsement by the General Assembly of the outcome of the Conference,[3]

Welcoming also the designation of Mr. Zahir Tanin, Permanent Representative of Afghanistan to the United Nations, as the Chair of the biennial meeting of States to be held in 2014,

Stressing the importance of voluntary national reporting to follow up on the Programme of Action as a means of assessing overall implementation efforts, including implementation challenges and opportunities, and which could greatly facilitate the rendering of international cooperation and assistance to affected States,

Noting that tools developed by the Office for Disarmament Affairs of the Secretariat, including the Programme of Action Implementation Support System, and those developed by Member States could be used to assess progress made in the implementation of the Programme of Action,

Welcoming the coordinated efforts within the United Nations to implement the Programme of Action, including by developing the Programme of Action Implementation Support System, which forms an integrated clearing house for international cooperation and assistance for capacity-building in the area of small arms and light weapons,

Taking into account the importance of regional approaches to the implementation of the Programme of Action,

Noting with satisfaction regional and subregional efforts being undertaken in support of the implementation of the Programme of Action, and commending the progress that has already been made in this regard, including tackling both supply and demand factors that are relevant to addressing the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons,

Reiterating that illicit brokering in small arms and light weapons is a serious problem that the international community should address urgently,

Recognizing the efforts undertaken by non-governmental organizations in the provision of assistance to States for the implementation of the Programme of Action,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General,[4] which includes an overview of the implementation of resolution 67/58,

Welcoming the inclusion of small arms and light weapons in the scope of the Arms Trade Treaty,[5]

1. *Underlines* the fact that the issue of the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects requires concerted efforts at the national, regional and international levels to prevent, combat and eradicate the illicit manufacture, transfer and circulation of small arms and light weapons, and that their uncontrolled spread in many regions of the world has a wide range of humanitarian and

[3] A/CONF.192/2012/RC/4, annexes I and II.

[4] A/68/171.

[5] See resolution 67/234 B.

socioeconomic consequences and poses a serious threat to peace, reconciliation, safety, security, stability and sustainable development at the individual, local, national, regional and international levels;

2. *Encourages* all relevant initiatives, including those of the United Nations, other international organizations, regional and subregional organizations, non-governmental organizations and civil society, for the successful implementation of the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects,[1] and calls upon all Member States to contribute towards the continued implementation of the Programme of Action at the national, regional and global levels;

3. *Encourages* States to implement the recommendations contained in the report of the Group of Governmental Experts established pursuant to resolution 60/81 to consider further steps to enhance international cooperation in preventing, combating and eradicating illicit brokering in small arms and light weapons;[6]

4. *Recalls* its endorsement of the outcome of the second United Nations Conference to Review Progress Made in the Implementation of the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects, held in New York from 27 August to 7 September 2012 (the Second Review Conference);[3]

5. *Also recalls* its decision, pursuant to the schedule of meetings for the period from 2012 to 2018 agreed at the Second Review Conference,[7] to convene, in accordance with the relevant provision of the Programme of Action, a one-week biennial meeting of States, in New York in 2014 and 2016, and a one-week open-ended meeting of governmental experts in 2015, to consider the full and effective implementation of the Programme of Action, and decides to hold the next biennial meeting of States from 16 to 20 June 2014;

6. *Further recalls* its decision, in accordance with the decision of the Second Review Conference,[7] to hold the third United Nations Conference to Review Progress Made in the Implementation of the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects in 2018 for a period of two weeks, preceded by a one-week preparatory committee meeting early in 2018;

7. *Emphasizes* the fact that initiatives by the international community with respect to international cooperation and assistance remain essential and complementary to national implementation efforts, as well as to those at the regional and global levels;

8. *Encourages* States to consider ways to enhance cooperation and assistance and to assess their effectiveness in order to ensure the implementation of the Programme of Action;

9. *Recognizes* the necessity for interested States to develop effective coordination mechanisms, where they do not exist, in order to match the needs of States with existing resources to enhance the implementation of the Programme of Action and to make international cooperation and assistance more effective, and in this regard encourages States to make use, as appropriate, of the Programme of Action Implementation Support System;

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[6] See A/62/163 and Corr.1.

[7] A/CONF.192/2012/RC/4, annex I, sect. III, paras. 1 and 2.

10. *Encourages* States to consider, among other mechanisms, the coherent identification of needs, priorities, national plans and programmes that may require international cooperation and assistance from States and regional and international organizations in a position to do so;

11. *Also encourages* States to take full advantage of the benefits of cooperation with the United Nations regional centres for peace and disarmament, the World Customs Organization, the International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL) and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, in accordance with their mandates and consistent with national priorities;

12. *Encourages* all efforts to build national capacity for the effective implementation of the Programme of Action, including those highlighted in the outcome documents of the Second Review Conference;

13. *Encourages* States to submit, on a voluntary basis, national reports on their implementation of the Programme of Action, notes that States will submit national reports on their implementation of the International Instrument to Enable States to Identify and Trace, in a Timely and Reliable Manner, Illicit Small Arms and Light Weapons (the International Tracing Instrument),[2] encourages those States in a position to do so to use the reporting template made available by the Office for Disarmament Affairs of the Secretariat, and reaffirms the utility of synchronizing such reports with biennial meetings of States and review conferences as a means of increasing the submission rate and improving the utility of reports, as well as contributing substantively to meeting discussions;

14. *Also encourages* States, on a voluntary basis, to make increasing use of their national reports as another tool for communicating assistance needs and information on the resources and mechanisms available to address such needs, and encourages States in a position to render such assistance to make use of these national reports;

15. *Encourages* States, relevant international and regional organizations and civil society with the capacity to do so to cooperate with and assist other States, upon request, in the preparation of comprehensive reports on their implementation of the Programme of Action;

16. *Calls upon* all States to implement the International Tracing Instrument by, inter alia, including in their national reports the name and contact information of the national points of contact and information on national marking practices used to indicate country of manufacture and/or country of import, as applicable;

17. *Recognizes* the urgent need to maintain and enhance national controls, in accordance with the Programme of Action, to prevent, combat and eradicate the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons, including their diversion to unauthorized recipients, taking into account, inter alia, their adverse humanitarian and socioeconomic consequences for the affected States;

18. *Encourages* States in a position to do so to provide financial assistance, through a voluntary sponsorship fund, that could be distributed, upon request, to States otherwise unable to participate in meetings on the Programme of Action;

19. *Encourages* interested States and relevant international and regional organizations in a position to do so to convene regional meetings to consider and advance the implementation of the Programme of Action, as well as the International Tracing Instrument, including in preparation for the meetings on the Programme of Action;

20. *Encourages* civil society and relevant organizations to strengthen their cooperation and work with States at the respective national and regional levels to achieve the implementation of the Programme of Action;

21. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-ninth session on the implementation of the present resolution;

22. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-ninth session, under the item entitled "General and complete disarmament", the sub-item entitled "The illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects".

60th plenary meeting
5 December 2013

General Assembly

Distr.: General
10 December 2013

Sixty-eighth session
Agenda item 99 (*h*)

Resolution adopted by the General Assembly on 5 December 2013

[*on the report of the First Committee (A/68/411)*]

68/49. Treaty on the South-East Asia Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone (Bangkok Treaty)

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 66/43 of 2 December 2011, entitled "Treaty on the South-East Asia Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone (Bangkok Treaty)",

Welcoming the desire of the South-East Asian States to maintain peace and stability in the region in the spirit of peaceful coexistence and mutual understanding and cooperation,

Noting the entry into force on 15 December 2008 of the Charter of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations,[1] in which it is stated, inter alia, that one of the purposes of the Association is to preserve South-East Asia as a nuclear-weapon-free zone, free of all other weapons of mass destruction,

Noting also the convening of the second Conference of States Parties and Signatories to Treaties that Establish Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zones and Mongolia,

Reaffirming its conviction of the important role of nuclear-weapon-free zones, established, where appropriate, on the basis of arrangements freely arrived at among States of the region concerned and in accordance with the 1999 guidelines of the Disarmament Commission,[2] in strengthening the nuclear non-proliferation regime, in contributing towards realizing the objectives of nuclear disarmament and in extending the areas of the world that are free of nuclear weapons, and, with particular reference to the responsibilities of the nuclear-weapon States, calling upon all States to seek a safer world for all and to achieve peace and security in a world without nuclear weapons in a way that promotes international stability and based on the principle of undiminished security for all,

Convinced that the establishment of a South-East Asia Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone, as an essential component of the Declaration on the Zone of Peace, Freedom

[1] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2624, No. 46745.

[2] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 42* (A/54/42).

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and Neutrality, signed in Kuala Lumpur on 27 November 1971, will contribute towards strengthening the security of States within the Zone and towards enhancing international peace and security as a whole,

Noting the entry into force of the Treaty on the South-East Asia Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone[3] on 27 March 1997 and the tenth anniversary of its entry into force in 2007,

Welcoming the reaffirmation of South-East Asian States that the South-East Asia Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone shall continue to play a pivotal role in the area of confidence-building measures, preventive diplomacy and the approaches to conflict resolution as enshrined in the Declaration of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations Concord II (Bali Concord II),[4]

Reaffirming the inalienable right of all the parties to the Treaty on the South-East Asia Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone to develop research, production and use of nuclear energy for peaceful purposes without discrimination and in conformity with the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons,[5]

Recognizing that, by signing and ratifying the relevant protocols to the treaties establishing nuclear-weapon-free zones, nuclear-weapon States would undertake individual legally binding commitments to respect the status of such zones and not to use or threaten to use nuclear weapons against States parties to such treaties,

Recalling the statement of the Chairman of the twenty-second Association of Southeast Asian Nations Summit and the joint communiqué of the forty-sixth Ministerial Meeting of the Association,

Recalling also the applicable principles and rules of international law relating to the freedom of the high seas and the rights of innocent passage, archipelagic sea lanes passage or transit passage of ships and aircraft, particularly those of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea,[6]

1. *Welcomes* the commitment and efforts of the Commission for the South-East Asia Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone to further enhance and strengthen the implementation of the Treaty on the South-East Asia Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone (Bangkok Treaty)[3] by implementing the plan of action for the period 2013–2017 adopted in Bandar Seri Begawan on 30 June 2013, with a renewed commitment and a stronger emphasis on concrete actions, and the decision of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations Political-Security Community Council, established under the Charter of the Association,[1] to give priority to the implementation of the plan of action;

2. *Encourages* States parties to the Treaty to continue to engage nuclear-weapon States to resolve comprehensively, in accordance with the objectives and principles of the Treaty, outstanding issues, with a view to signing the Protocol thereto and its related documents expeditiously;

3. *Underlines* the value of enhancing and implementing further ways and means of cooperation among the States parties to nuclear-weapon-free zone treaties

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[3] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1981, No. 33873.

[4] A/58/548, annex I.

[5] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 729, No. 10485.

[6] Ibid., vol. 1833, No. 31363.

and the protocols thereto, with a view to strengthening the non-proliferation regime and to contributing towards realizing the objective of nuclear disarmament;

4. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventieth session, under the item entitled "General and complete disarmament", the sub-item entitled "Treaty on the South-East Asia Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone (Bangkok Treaty)".

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5 December 2013

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Sixty-eighth session
Agenda item 99 (*c*)

Resolution adopted by the General Assembly on 5 December 2013

[*on the report of the First Committee (A/68/411)*]

68/50. Transparency and confidence-building measures in outer space activities

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 60/66 of 8 December 2005, 61/75 of 6 December 2006, 62/43 of 5 December 2007, 63/68 of 2 December 2008, 64/49 of 2 December 2009 and 65/68 of 8 December 2010, as well as its decision 66/517 of 2 December 2011,

Recalling also the report of the Secretary-General of 15 October 1993 to the General Assembly at its forty-eighth session, the annex to which contains the study by governmental experts on the application of confidence-building measures in outer space,[1]

Reaffirming the right of all countries to explore and use outer space in accordance with international law,

Reaffirming also that preventing an arms race in outer space is in the interest of maintaining international peace and security and is an essential condition for the promotion and strengthening of international cooperation in the exploration and use of outer space for peaceful purposes,

Recalling, in this context, its resolutions 45/55 B of 4 December 1990 and 48/74 B of 16 December 1993, in which, inter alia, the General Assembly recognized the need for increased transparency and confirmed the importance of confidence-building measures as a means of reinforcing the objective of preventing an arms race in outer space,

Noting the constructive debates that the Conference on Disarmament has held on this subject and the views expressed by Member States,

Noting also the introduction by China and the Russian Federation at the Conference on Disarmament of the draft treaty on the prevention of the placement of weapons in outer space and of the threat or use of force against outer space objects,[2]

[1] A/48/305 and Corr.1.

[2] See CD/1839.

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Noting further that, since 2004, several States[3] have introduced a policy of not being the first State to place weapons in outer space,

Noting the presentation by the European Union of a draft of a non-legally binding international code of conduct for outer space activities,

Recognizing the work that takes place within the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space, its Scientific and Technical Subcommittee and its Legal Subcommittee, which makes a significant contribution to the promotion of the long-term sustainability of outer space activities,

Noting the contribution of Member States that have submitted to the Secretary-General concrete proposals on international outer space transparency and confidence-building measures pursuant to paragraph 1 of resolution 61/75, paragraph 2 of resolution 62/43, paragraph 2 of resolution 63/68 and paragraph 2 of resolution 64/49,

Welcoming the work done in 2012 and 2013 by the group of governmental experts convened by the Secretary-General, on the basis of equitable geographical distribution, to conduct a study on outer space transparency and confidence-building measures,

1. *Welcomes* the note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Group of Governmental Experts on Transparency and Confidence-building Measures in Outer Space Activities;[4]

2. *Encourages* Member States to review and implement, to the greatest extent practicable, the proposed transparency and confidence-building measures contained in the report, through relevant national mechanisms, on a voluntary basis and in a manner consistent with the national interests of Member States;

3. *Decides*, in order to further advance transparency and confidence-building measures in outer space, to refer the recommendations contained in the report to the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space, the Disarmament Commission and the Conference on Disarmament for consideration, as appropriate;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to circulate the report to all other relevant entities and organizations of the United Nations system in order that they may assist in effectively implementing the conclusions and recommendations contained therein, as appropriate;

5. *Encourages* relevant entities and organizations of the United Nations system to coordinate, as appropriate, on matters related to the recommendations contained in the report;

6. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-ninth session, under the item entitled "General and complete disarmament", the sub-item entitled "Transparency and confidence-building measures in outer space activities".

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[3] Armenia, Belarus, Brazil, Indonesia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, the Russian Federation, Sri Lanka and Tajikistan.

[4] A/68/189.

General Assembly

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Sixty-eighth session
Agenda item 99 (*z*)

Resolution adopted by the General Assembly on 5 December 2013

[*on the report of the First Committee (A/68/411)*]

68/51. United action towards the total elimination of nuclear weapons

The General Assembly,

Recalling the need for all States to take further practical steps and effective measures towards the total elimination of nuclear weapons, with a view to achieving a peaceful and secure world free of nuclear weapons, and in this regard confirming the determination of Member States to take united action,

Noting that the ultimate objective of the efforts of States in the disarmament process is general and complete disarmament under strict and effective international control,

Recalling its resolution 67/59 of 3 December 2012,

Expressing deep concern at the catastrophic humanitarian consequences of any use of nuclear weapons, and reaffirming the need for all States at all times to comply with applicable international law, including international humanitarian law, while convinced that every effort should be made to avoid the use of nuclear weapons,

Recognizing that the catastrophic humanitarian consequences that would result from the use of nuclear weapons should be fully understood, and noting in this regard that efforts should be made to increase such understanding,

Reaffirming that the enhancement of international peace and security and the promotion of nuclear disarmament are mutually reinforcing,

Reaffirming also that further advancement in nuclear disarmament will contribute to consolidating the international regime for nuclear non-proliferation, which is, inter alia, essential to international peace and security,

Reaffirming further the crucial importance of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons[1] as the cornerstone of the international nuclear

[1] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 729, No. 10485.

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non-proliferation regime and an essential foundation for the pursuit of the three pillars of the Treaty, namely, nuclear disarmament, nuclear non-proliferation and the peaceful uses of nuclear energy,

Recalling the decisions and the resolution of the 1995 Review and Extension Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons[2] and the Final Documents of the 2000[3] and 2010[4] Review Conferences of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons,

Welcoming the successful outcome of the 2010 Review Conference, held from 3 to 28 May 2010, in the year of the sixty-fifth anniversary of the atomic bombings in Hiroshima and Nagasaki, Japan, and reaffirming the necessity of fully implementing the action plan adopted at the Review Conference,[5]

Welcoming also the deliberations and results of the second session of the Preparatory Committee for the 2015 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, held from 22 April to 3 May 2013,

Noting the high-level meeting on revitalizing the work of the Conference on Disarmament and taking forward multilateral disarmament negotiations, convened by the Secretary-General on 24 September 2010, and the plenary meeting of the General Assembly to follow up on the high-level meeting, held from 27 to 29 July 2011,

Noting also the meetings of the Open-ended Working Group "to take forward multilateral nuclear disarmament negotiations" held in Geneva from 14 to 24 May, on 27 June and from 19 to 30 August 2013, as well as the high-level meeting of the General Assembly on nuclear disarmament, held on 26 September 2013,

Welcoming the entry into force on 5 February 2011 of the Treaty between the Russian Federation and the United States of America on Measures for the Further Reduction and Limitation of Strategic Offensive Arms,

Welcoming also the announcements on overall stockpiles of nuclear warheads by France, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America, as well as the update of the Russian Federation on its nuclear arsenals, which further enhance transparency and increase mutual confidence,

Welcoming further the high-level national statement made on 19 June 2013 regarding the long-term goal of achieving the peace and security of a world without nuclear weapons, and expressing renewed determination to increase momentum for global nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation,

Expressing deep concern regarding the growing dangers posed by the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, inter alia, nuclear weapons, including that caused by proliferation networks,

Recognizing the importance of the objective of nuclear security, along with the shared goals of Member States of nuclear disarmament, nuclear non-proliferation

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[2] See *1995 Review and Extension Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, Final Document, Part I* (NPT/CONF.1995/32 (Part I) and Corr.2), annex.

[3] *2000 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, Final Document*, vols. I–III (NPT/CONF.2000/28 (Parts I–IV)).

[4] *2010 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, Final Document*, vols. I–III (NPT/CONF.2010/50 (Vols. I–III)).

[5] Ibid., vol. I, part I.

and peaceful uses of nuclear energy, welcoming the Nuclear Security Summit held in Washington, D.C., on 12 and 13 April 2010 and in Seoul on 26 and 27 March 2012, and looking forward to the Nuclear Security Summit to be held in the Netherlands in 2014,

Condemning in the strongest terms the nuclear test conducted by the Democratic People's Republic of Korea on 12 February 2013, recognizing the importance of the implementation of Security Council resolutions 1718 (2006) of 14 October 2006, 1874 (2009) of 12 June 2009, 2087 (2013) of 22 January 2013 and 2094 (2013) of 7 March 2013, noting the requirements of resolutions 1718 (2006), 1874 (2009) and 2094 (2013), which were adopted under Chapter VII of the Charter of the United Nations, and in particular noting the requirements that the Democratic People's Republic of Korea abandon all nuclear weapons and existing nuclear programmes and immediately cease all related activities, in this respect expressing concern regarding the Democratic People's Republic of Korea's uranium enrichment programme and light water reactor construction, as well as the launches on 13 April and 12 December 2012 and its recent statements of its intention to readjust and restart its nuclear facilities at Yongbyon, including the 5 MW(*e*) graphite-moderated reactor and uranium enrichment activities, and declaring that the Democratic People's Republic of Korea cannot have the status of a nuclear-weapon State under the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, nor will it be accepted that it possess nuclear weapons under any circumstances,

1. *Reaffirms* the importance of all States parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons[1] complying with their obligations under all the articles of the Treaty;

2. *Also reaffirms* the vital importance of the universality of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, and calls upon all States not parties to the Treaty to accede as non-nuclear-weapon States to the Treaty promptly and without any conditions and, pending their accession to the Treaty, to adhere to its terms and take practical steps in support of the Treaty;

3. *Further reaffirms* the unequivocal undertaking by the nuclear-weapon States to accomplish the total elimination of their nuclear arsenals, leading to nuclear disarmament, to which all States parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons are committed under article VI thereof;

4. *Calls upon* nuclear-weapon States to undertake further efforts to reduce and ultimately eliminate all types of nuclear weapons, deployed and non-deployed, including through unilateral, bilateral, regional and multilateral measures;

5. *Emphasizes* the importance of applying the principles of irreversibility, verifiability and transparency in relation to the process of nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation;

6. *Recognizes* that nuclear disarmament and achieving the peace and security of a world without nuclear weapons require openness and cooperation, affirms the importance of enhanced confidence through increased transparency and effective verification, emphasizes the importance of the commitment made by the nuclear-weapon States at the 2010 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons to accelerate concrete progress on the steps leading to nuclear disarmament contained in the Final Document of the 2000 Review Conference in a way that promotes international stability, peace and undiminished and increased security, and the call upon the nuclear-weapon States to report their undertakings in 2014 to the Preparatory Committee for the 2015 Review Conference,[5] and welcomes in this regard the convening, in Paris on 30 June and

1 July 2011, in Washington, D.C., from 27 to 29 June 2012, and at the Mission of the Russian Federation to the United Nations Office at Geneva on 18 and 19 April 2013, of the follow-up meetings to the 2010 Review Conference of the five nuclear-weapon States as a transparency and confidence-building measure among them;

7. *Welcomes* the ongoing implementation by the Russian Federation and the United States of America of the Treaty on Measures for the Further Reduction and Limitation of Strategic Offensive Arms, and encourages them to continue discussions on follow-on measures in order to achieve deeper reductions in their nuclear arsenals;

8. *Urges* all States that have not yet done so to sign and ratify the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty[6] at the earliest opportunity, with a view to its early entry into force and universalization, stresses the importance of maintaining existing moratoriums on nuclear-weapon test explosions or any other nuclear explosions pending the entry into force of the Treaty, and reaffirms the importance of the continued development of the Treaty verification regime, which will be a significant contribution to providing assurance of compliance with the Treaty;

9. *Reiterates its call for* the immediate commencement of negotiations on a treaty banning the production of fissile material for nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices and its early conclusion, regrets that negotiations have not yet started, and calls upon all nuclear-weapon States and States not parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons to declare and maintain moratoriums on the production of fissile material for any nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices pending the entry into force of the treaty;

10. *Calls upon* the nuclear-weapon States to take measures to further reduce the risk of an accidental or unauthorized launch of nuclear weapons in ways that promote international stability and security, while welcoming the measures already taken by several nuclear-weapon States in this regard;

11. *Also calls upon* the nuclear-weapon States to promptly engage with a view to further diminishing the role and significance of nuclear weapons in all military and security concepts, doctrines and policies;

12. *Recognizes* the legitimate interest of non-nuclear-weapon States in receiving unequivocal and legally binding security assurances from nuclear-weapon States which could strengthen the nuclear non-proliferation regime;

13. *Recalls* Security Council resolution 984 (1995) of 11 April 1995, noting the unilateral statements by each of the nuclear-weapon States, and calls upon all nuclear-weapon States to fully respect their existing commitments with regard to security assurances;

14. *Encourages* the establishment of further nuclear-weapon-free zones, where appropriate, on the basis of arrangements freely arrived at among States of the region concerned and in accordance with the 1999 guidelines of the Disarmament Commission,[7] and recognizes that, by signing and ratifying relevant protocols that contain negative security assurances, nuclear-weapon States would undertake individual legally binding commitments with respect to the status of such zones and not to use or threaten to use nuclear weapons against States parties to such treaties;

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[6] See resolution 50/245 and A/50/1027.

[7] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 42* (A/54/42).

15. *Urges* the Democratic People's Republic of Korea not to conduct any further nuclear tests and to comply fully with its commitments under the joint statement of the Six-Party Talks of 19 September 2005 and its obligations under the relevant Security Council resolutions;

16. *Calls upon* all States to redouble their efforts to prevent and curb the proliferation of nuclear weapons and their means of delivery and to fully respect and comply with obligations undertaken to forswear nuclear weapons;

17. *Stresses* the importance of the universalization of the comprehensive safeguards agreements of the International Atomic Energy Agency to include States which have not yet adopted and implemented such an agreement, while also strongly reaffirming the follow-on action of the 2010 Review Conference encouraging all States which have not done so to conclude and bring into force as soon as possible the Model Protocol Additional to the Agreement(s) between State(s) and the International Atomic Energy Agency for the Application of Safeguards approved by the Board of Governors of the Agency on 15 May 1997, and the full implementation of relevant Security Council resolutions, including resolution 1540 (2004) of 28 April 2004;

18. *Encourages* every effort to secure all vulnerable nuclear and radiological material in order to, inter alia, prevent nuclear terrorism, and calls upon all States to work cooperatively as an international community to advance nuclear security, while requesting and providing assistance, including in the field of capacity-building, as necessary;

19. *Encourages* all States to implement the recommendations contained in the report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations study on disarmament and non-proliferation education,[8] in support of achieving a world without nuclear weapons, and to voluntarily share information on efforts they have been undertaking to that end;

20. *Commends and further encourages* the constructive role played by civil society in promoting nuclear non-proliferation and nuclear disarmament, and encourages all States to promote, in cooperation with civil society, disarmament and non-proliferation education which, inter alia, contributes to raising public awareness of the tragic consequences of the use of nuclear weapons and strengthens the momentum of international efforts to promote nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation;

21. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-ninth session, under the item entitled "General and complete disarmament", the sub-item entitled "United action towards the total elimination of nuclear weapons".

60th plenary meeting
5 December 2013

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[8] A/57/124.

General Assembly

Distr.: General
11 December 2013

Sixty-eighth session
Agenda item 99 (*g*)

Resolution adopted by the General Assembly on 5 December 2013

[*on the report of the First Committee (A/68/411)*]

68/52. Problems arising from the accumulation of conventional ammunition stockpiles in surplus

The General Assembly,

Mindful of contributing to the process initiated within the framework of the United Nations reform to make the Organization more effective in maintaining peace and security by giving it the resources and tools it needs for conflict prevention, peaceful resolution of disputes, peacekeeping, post-conflict peacebuilding and reconstruction,

Underlining the importance of a comprehensive and integrated approach to disarmament through the development of practical measures,

Welcoming the requirement of the Arms Trade Treaty[1] that States parties establish and maintain a national control system to regulate the export of relevant ammunition and munitions,

Taking note of the report of the Group of Experts on the problem of ammunition and explosives,[2]

Recalling the recommendation contained in paragraph 27 of the report of the Open-ended Working Group to Negotiate an International Instrument to Enable States to Identify and Trace, in a Timely and Reliable Manner, Illicit Small Arms and Light Weapons,[3] namely, to address the issue of small arms and light weapons ammunition in a comprehensive manner as part of a separate process conducted within the framework of the United Nations,

Noting with satisfaction the work and measures pursued at the regional and subregional levels with regard to the issue of conventional ammunition,

Recalling its decision 59/515 of 3 December 2004 and its resolutions 60/74 of 8 December 2005 and 61/72 of 6 December 2006, its resolution 63/61 of

[1] See resolution 67/234 B.
[2] See A/54/155.
[3] A/60/88 and Corr.2.

Please recycle

2 December 2008, by which it welcomed the report of the Group of Governmental Experts established pursuant to resolution 61/72 to consider further steps to enhance cooperation with regard to the issue of conventional ammunition stockpiles in surplus,[4] and its resolution 64/51 of 2 December 2009,

Taking note of the recommendations of the Group of Governmental Experts and encouraging the use, as appropriate, of the International Ammunition Technical Guidelines, which are available to States on a voluntary basis, as well as the recommendations of the Group on improving knowledge resource management on technical ammunition issues within the United Nations system, and noting the subsequent establishment, within the Secretariat, of the Safer*G*uard knowledge resource management programme,[5]

1. *Encourages* all interested States to assess, on a voluntary basis, whether, in conformity with their legitimate security needs, parts of their stockpiles of conventional ammunition should be considered to be in surplus, and recognizes that the security of such stockpiles must be taken into consideration and that appropriate controls with regard to the security and safety of stockpiles of conventional ammunition are indispensable at the national level in order to eliminate the risk of explosion, pollution or diversion;

2. *Appeals* to all interested States to determine the size and nature of their surplus stockpiles of conventional ammunition, whether they represent a security risk, their means of destruction, if appropriate, and whether external assistance is needed to eliminate this risk;

3. *Encourages* States in a position to do so to assist interested States within a bilateral framework or through international or regional organizations, on a voluntary and transparent basis, in elaborating and implementing programmes to eliminate surplus stockpiles or to improve their management;

4. *Encourages* all Member States to examine the possibility of developing and implementing, within a national, regional or subregional framework, measures to address accordingly the illicit trafficking related to the accumulation of such stockpiles;

5. *Takes note* of the replies submitted by Member States in response to the request of the Secretary-General for views regarding the risks arising from the accumulation of conventional ammunition stockpiles in surplus and regarding national ways of strengthening controls on conventional ammunition;[6]

6. *Continues to encourage* States to implement the recommendations contained in the report of the Group of Governmental Experts established pursuant to resolution 61/72 to consider further steps to enhance cooperation with regard to the issue of conventional ammunition stockpiles in surplus;[4]

7. *Recalls* the completion of the International Ammunition Technical Guidelines and the establishment of the Safer*G*uard knowledge resource management programme for the stockpile management of conventional ammunition, developed by the Office for Disarmament Affairs of the Secretariat, with the full

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[4] A/63/182.

[5] Ibid., paras. 72 and 73.

[6] A/61/118 and Add.1 and A/62/166 and Add.1.

involvement of the Mine Action Service of the Department of Peacekeeping Operations of the Secretariat, in accordance with the recommendations contained in the report of the Group of Governmental Experts;

8. *Welcomes* the completion of implementation software and training materials that facilitate the application of the Technical Guidelines in the field;

9. *Encourages*, in this regard, the safe and secure management of ammunition stockpiles in the planning and conduct of peacekeeping operations,[7] including through the training of peacekeepers, utilizing the Technical Guidelines;

10. *Welcomes* the establishment of the Safer*G*uard quick-response mechanism, which allows ammunitions experts to be deployed rapidly to assist States, upon request, in the urgent management of ammunition stockpiles, including in the aftermath of unintended explosions of ammunition, and encourages States in a position to do so to provide technical expertise or financial support to the mechanism;

11. *Encourages* States wishing to improve their national stockpile management capacity, prevent the growth of conventional ammunition surpluses and address wider risk mitigation to contact the Safer*G*uard programme, as well as potential national donors and regional organizations, as appropriate, with a view to developing cooperation, including, where relevant, technical expertise;

12. *Reiterates* its decision to address the issue of conventional ammunition stockpiles in surplus in a comprehensive manner;

13. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventieth session, under the item entitled "General and complete disarmament", the sub-item entitled "Problems arising from the accumulation of conventional ammunition stockpiles in surplus".

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[7] A/63/182, para. 74.

General Assembly

Distr.: General
11 December 2013

Sixty-eighth session
Agenda item 99 (*l*)

Resolution adopted by the General Assembly on 5 December 2013

[*on the report of the First Committee (A/68/411)*]

68/53. Prohibition of the dumping of radioactive wastes

The General Assembly,

Bearing in mind resolutions CM/Res.1153 (XLVIII) of 1988 [1] and CM/Res.1225 (L) of 1989,[2] adopted by the Council of Ministers of the Organization of African Unity, concerning the dumping of nuclear and industrial wastes in Africa,

Welcoming resolution GC(XXXIV)/RES/530 establishing the Code of Practice on the International Transboundary Movement of Radioactive Waste, adopted on 21 September 1990 by the General Conference of the International Atomic Energy Agency at its thirty-fourth regular session,

Taking note of the commitment made by the participants in the Summit on Nuclear Safety and Security, held in Moscow on 19 and 20 April 1996, to ban the dumping at sea of radioactive wastes,[3]

Considering its resolution 2602 C (XXIV) of 16 December 1969, in which the General Assembly requested the Conference of the Committee on Disarmament,[4] inter alia, to consider effective methods of control against the use of radiological methods of warfare,

Aware of the potential hazards underlying any use of radioactive wastes that would constitute radiological warfare and its implications for regional and international security, in particular for the security of developing countries,

Recalling all its resolutions on the matter since its forty-third session in 1988, including its resolution 51/45 J of 10 December 1996,

Recalling also resolution GC(45)/RES/10, adopted by consensus on 21 September 2001 by the General Conference of the International Atomic Energy

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[1] See A/43/398, annex I.

[2] See A/44/603, annex I.

[3] A/51/131, annex I, para. 20.

[4] The Conference of the Committee on Disarmament became the Committee on Disarmament as from the tenth special session of the General Assembly. The Committee on Disarmament was redesignated the Conference on Disarmament as from 7 February 1984.

Please recycle

Agency at its forty-fifth regular session, in which States shipping radioactive materials are invited to provide, as appropriate, assurances to concerned States, upon their request, that the national regulations of the shipping State take into account the Agency's transport regulations and to provide them with relevant information relating to the shipment of such materials; with the information provided being in no case contradictory to the measures of physical security and safety,

Welcoming the adoption, in Vienna on 5 September 1997, of the Joint Convention on the Safety of Spent Fuel Management and on the Safety of Radioactive Waste Management,[5] as recommended by the participants in the Summit on Nuclear Safety and Security,

Welcoming also the convening by the International Atomic Energy Agency of the Ministerial Conference on Nuclear Safety, in Vienna from 20 to 24 June 2011, and its outcome, the Declaration of the International Atomic Energy Agency Ministerial Conference on Nuclear Safety, as well as the Action Plan on Nuclear Safety, endorsed by the General Conference of the Agency at its fifty-fifth regular session,

Noting the convening by the Secretary-General of the high-level meeting on nuclear safety and security, in New York on 22 September 2011,

Noting with satisfaction that the Joint Convention entered into force on 18 June 2001,

Noting that the first Review Meeting of the Contracting Parties to the Joint Convention on the Safety of Spent Fuel Management and on the Safety of Radioactive Waste Management was convened in Vienna from 3 to 14 November 2003,

Desirous of promoting the implementation of paragraph 76 of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly, the first special session devoted to disarmament,[6]

1. *Takes note* of the part of the report of the Conference on Disarmament relating to radiological weapons;[7]

2. *Also takes note* of the Declaration of the International Atomic Energy Agency Ministerial Conference on Nuclear Safety, the Action Plan on Nuclear Safety and the high-level meeting on nuclear safety and security convened by the Secretary-General;

3. *Expresses grave concern* regarding any use of nuclear wastes that would constitute radiological warfare and have grave implications for the national security of all States;

4. *Calls upon* all States to take appropriate measures with a view to preventing any dumping of nuclear or radioactive wastes that would infringe upon the sovereignty of States;

5. *Requests* the Conference on Disarmament to take into account, in the negotiations for a convention on the prohibition of radiological weapons, radioactive wastes as part of the scope of such a convention;

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[5] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2153, No. 37605.

[6] Resolution S-10/2.

[7] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 27* (A/68/27), sect. III.E.

6. *Also requests* the Conference on Disarmament to intensify efforts towards an early conclusion of such a convention and to include in its report to the General Assembly at its seventieth session the progress recorded in the negotiations on this subject;

7. *Takes note* of resolution CM/Res.1356 (LIV) of 1991, adopted by the Council of Ministers of the Organization of African Unity,[8] on the Bamako Convention on the Ban on the Import of Hazardous Wastes into Africa and on the Control of Their Transboundary Movements within Africa;

8. *Expresses the hope* that the effective implementation of the International Atomic Energy Agency Code of Practice on the International Transboundary Movement of Radioactive Waste will enhance the protection of all States from the dumping of radioactive wastes on their territories;

9. *Appeals* to all Member States that have not yet taken the steps necessary to become party to the Joint Convention on the Safety of Spent Fuel Management and on the Safety of Radioactive Waste Management[5] to do so as soon as possible;

10. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventieth session, under the item entitled "General and complete disarmament", the sub-item entitled "Prohibition of the dumping of radioactive wastes".

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[8] See A/46/390, annex I.

General Assembly

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Sixty-eighth session
Agenda item 99 (*x*)

Resolution adopted by the General Assembly on 5 December 2013

[*on the report of the First Committee (A/68/411)*]

68/54. Regional disarmament

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 45/58 P of 4 December 1990, 46/36 I of 6 December 1991, 47/52 J of 9 December 1992, 48/75 I of 16 December 1993, 49/75 N of 15 December 1994, 50/70 K of 12 December 1995, 51/45 K of 10 December 1996, 52/38 P of 9 December 1997, 53/77 O of 4 December 1998, 54/54 N of 1 December 1999, 55/33 O of 20 November 2000, 56/24 H of 29 November 2001, 57/76 of 22 November 2002, 58/38 of 8 December 2003, 59/89 of 3 December 2004, 60/63 of 8 December 2005, 61/80 of 6 December 2006, 62/38 of 5 December 2007, 63/43 of 2 December 2008, 64/41 of 2 December 2009, 65/45 of 8 December 2010, 66/36 of 2 December 2011 and 67/57 of 3 December 2012 on regional disarmament,

Believing that the efforts of the international community to move towards the ideal of general and complete disarmament are guided by the inherent human desire for genuine peace and security, the elimination of the danger of war and the release of economic, intellectual and other resources for peaceful pursuits,

Affirming the abiding commitment of all States to the purposes and principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations in the conduct of their international relations,

Noting that essential guidelines for progress towards general and complete disarmament were adopted at the tenth special session of the General Assembly,[1]

Taking note of the guidelines and recommendations for regional approaches to disarmament within the context of global security adopted by the Disarmament Commission at its 1993 substantive session,[2]

Welcoming the prospects of genuine progress in the field of disarmament engendered in recent years as a result of negotiations between the two super-Powers,

[1] Resolution S-10/2.

[2] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 42* (A/48/42), annex II.

Please recycle

Taking note of the recent proposals for disarmament at the regional and subregional levels,

Recognizing the importance of confidence-building measures for regional and international peace and security,

Convinced that endeavours by countries to promote regional disarmament, taking into account the specific characteristics of each region and in accordance with the principle of undiminished security at the lowest level of armaments, would enhance the security of all States and would thus contribute to international peace and security by reducing the risk of regional conflicts,

1. *Stresses* that sustained efforts are needed, within the framework of the Conference on Disarmament and under the umbrella of the United Nations, to make progress on the entire range of disarmament issues;

2. *Affirms* that global and regional approaches to disarmament complement each other and should therefore be pursued simultaneously to promote regional and international peace and security;

3. *Calls upon* States to conclude agreements, wherever possible, for nuclear non-proliferation, disarmament and confidence-building measures at the regional and subregional levels;

4. *Welcomes* the initiatives towards disarmament, nuclear non-proliferation and security undertaken by some countries at the regional and subregional levels;

5. *Supports and encourages* efforts aimed at promoting confidence-building measures at the regional and subregional levels to ease regional tensions and to further disarmament and nuclear non-proliferation measures at the regional and subregional levels;

6. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-ninth session, under the item entitled "General and complete disarmament", the sub-item entitled "Regional disarmament".

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5 December 2013

General Assembly

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Sixty-eighth session
Agenda item 99 (*bb*)

Resolution adopted by the General Assembly on 5 December 2013

[*on the report of the First Committee (A/68/411)*]

68/55. Confidence-building measures in the regional and subregional context

The General Assembly,

Guided by the purposes and principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations,

Recalling its resolutions 58/43 of 8 December 2003, 59/87 of 3 December 2004, 60/64 of 8 December 2005, 61/81 of 6 December 2006, 62/45 of 5 December 2007, 63/45 of 2 December 2008, 64/43 of 2 December 2009, 65/47 of 8 December 2010, 66/38 of 2 December 2011 and 67/61 of 3 December 2012 on confidence-building measures in the regional and subregional context,

Recalling also its resolution 57/337 of 3 July 2003 on the prevention of armed conflict, in which the General Assembly calls upon Member States to settle their disputes by peaceful means, as set out in Chapter VI of the Charter, inter alia, by any procedures adopted by the parties,

Recalling further the resolutions and guidelines adopted by consensus by the General Assembly and the Disarmament Commission relating to confidence-building measures and their implementation at the global, regional and subregional levels,

Considering the importance and effectiveness of confidence-building measures taken at the initiative and with the agreement of all States concerned, and taking into account the specific characteristics of each region, since such measures can contribute to regional stability,

Convinced that resources released by disarmament, including regional disarmament, can be devoted to economic and social development and to the protection of the environment for the benefit of all peoples, in particular those of the developing countries,

Recognizing the need for meaningful dialogue among States concerned to avert conflict,

Please recycle

Welcoming the peace processes already initiated by States concerned to resolve their disputes through peaceful means bilaterally or through mediation, inter alia, by third parties, regional organizations or the United Nations,

Recognizing that States in some regions have already taken steps towards confidence-building measures at the bilateral, subregional and regional levels in the political and military fields, including arms control and disarmament, and noting that such confidence-building measures have improved peace and security in those regions and contributed to progress in the socioeconomic conditions of their people,

Concerned that the continuation of disputes among States, particularly in the absence of an effective mechanism to resolve them through peaceful means, may contribute to the arms race and endanger the maintenance of international peace and security and the efforts of the international community to promote arms control and disarmament,

1. *Calls upon* Member States to refrain from the use or threat of use of force in accordance with the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations;

2. *Reaffirms its commitment* to the peaceful settlement of disputes under Chapter VI of the Charter, in particular Article 33, which provides for a solution by negotiation, enquiry, mediation, conciliation, arbitration, judicial settlement, resort to regional agencies or arrangements or other peaceful means chosen by the parties;

3. *Reaffirms* the ways and means regarding confidence- and security-building measures set out in the report of the Disarmament Commission on its 1993 session;[1]

4. *Calls upon* Member States to pursue these ways and means through sustained consultations and dialogue, while at the same time avoiding actions that may hinder or impair such a dialogue;

5. *Urges* States to comply strictly with all bilateral, regional and international agreements, including arms control and disarmament agreements, to which they are party;

6. *Emphasizes* that the objective of confidence-building measures should be to help to strengthen international peace and security and to be consistent with the principle of undiminished security at the lowest level of armaments;

7. *Encourages* the promotion of bilateral and regional confidence-building measures, with the consent and participation of the parties concerned, to avoid conflict and prevent the unintended and accidental outbreak of hostilities;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report to the General Assembly at its sixty-ninth session containing the views of Member States on confidence-building measures in the regional and subregional context;

9. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-ninth session, under the item entitled "General and complete disarmament", the sub-item entitled "Confidence-building measures in the regional and subregional context".

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[1] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 42* (A/48/42), annex II, sect. III.A.

General Assembly

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Agenda item 99 (*cc*)

Resolution adopted by the General Assembly on 5 December 2013

[*on the report of the First Committee (A/68/411)*]

68/56. Conventional arms control at the regional and subregional levels

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 48/75 J of 16 December 1993, 49/75 O of 15 December 1994, 50/70 L of 12 December 1995, 51/45 Q of 10 December 1996, 52/38 Q of 9 December 1997, 53/77 P of 4 December 1998, 54/54 M of 1 December 1999, 55/33 P of 20 November 2000, 56/24 I of 29 November 2001, 57/77 of 22 November 2002, 58/39 of 8 December 2003, 59/88 of 3 December 2004, 60/75 of 8 December 2005, 61/82 of 6 December 2006, 62/44 of 5 December 2007, 63/44 of 2 December 2008, 64/42 of 2 December 2009, 65/46 of 8 December 2010, 66/37 of 2 December 2011 and 67/62 of 3 December 2012,

Recognizing the crucial role of conventional arms control in promoting regional and international peace and security,

Convinced that conventional arms control needs to be pursued primarily in the regional and subregional contexts since most threats to peace and security in the post-cold-war era arise mainly among States located in the same region or subregion,

Aware that the preservation of a balance in the defence capabilities of States at the lowest level of armaments would contribute to peace and stability and should be a prime objective of conventional arms control,

Desirous of promoting agreements to strengthen regional peace and security at the lowest possible level of armaments and military forces,

Noting with particular interest the initiatives taken in this regard in different regions of the world, in particular the commencement of consultations among a number of Latin American countries and the proposals for conventional arms control made in the context of South Asia, and recognizing, in the context of this subject, the relevance and value of the Treaty on Conventional Armed Forces in Europe,[1] which is a cornerstone of European security,

[1] See CD/1064.

Please recycle

Believing that militarily significant States and States with larger military capabilities have a special responsibility in promoting such agreements for regional security,

Believing also that an important objective of conventional arms control in regions of tension should be to prevent the possibility of military attack launched by surprise and to avoid aggression,

1. *Decides* to give urgent consideration to the issues involved in conventional arms control at the regional and subregional levels;

2. *Requests* the Conference on Disarmament to consider the formulation of principles that can serve as a framework for regional agreements on conventional arms control, and looks forward to a report of the Conference on this subject;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in the meantime, to seek the views of Member States on the subject and to submit a report to the General Assembly at its sixty-ninth session;

4. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-ninth session, under the item entitled "General and complete disarmament", the sub-item entitled "Conventional arms control at the regional and subregional levels".

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5 December 2013

General Assembly

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11 December 2013

Sixty-eighth session
Agenda item 100 (*a*)

Resolution adopted by the General Assembly on 5 December 2013

[*on the report of the First Committee (A/68/412)*]

68/57. United Nations regional centres for peace and disarmament

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 60/83 of 8 December 2005, 61/90 of 6 December 2006, 62/50 of 5 December 2007, 63/76 of 2 December 2008, 64/58 of 2 December 2009, 65/78 of 8 December 2010, 66/53 of 2 December 2011 and 67/63 of 3 December 2012 regarding the maintenance and revitalization of the three United Nations regional centres for peace and disarmament,

Recalling also the reports of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa,[1] the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and the Pacific[2] and the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean,[3]

Reaffirming its decision, taken in 1982 at its twelfth special session, to establish the United Nations Disarmament Information Programme, the purpose of which is to inform, educate and generate public understanding and support for the objectives of the United Nations in the field of arms control and disarmament,

Bearing in mind its resolutions 40/151 G of 16 December 1985, 41/60 J of 3 December 1986, 42/39 D of 30 November 1987 and 44/117 F of 15 December 1989 on the regional centres for peace and disarmament in Nepal, Peru and Togo,

Recognizing that the changes that have taken place in the world have created new opportunities and posed new challenges for the pursuit of disarmament, and bearing in mind in this regard that the regional centres for peace and disarmament can contribute substantially to understanding and cooperation among States in each particular region in the areas of peace, disarmament and development,

Noting that, in paragraph 178 of the Final Document of the Sixteenth Conference of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries, held in

[1] A/68/114.
[2] A/68/112.
[3] A/68/134.

Please recycle

Tehran on 30 and 31 August 2012,[4] the Heads of State or Government emphasized the importance of United Nations activities at the regional level to increase the stability and security of its Member States, which could be promoted in a substantive manner by the maintenance and revitalization of the three regional centres for peace and disarmament,

1. *Reiterates* the importance of United Nations activities at the regional level to advance disarmament and to increase the stability and security of its Member States, which could be promoted in a substantive manner by the maintenance and revitalization of the three regional centres for peace and disarmament;

2. *Reaffirms* that, in order to achieve positive results, it is useful for the three regional centres to carry out dissemination and educational programmes that promote regional peace and security and that are aimed at changing basic attitudes with respect to peace and security and disarmament so as to support the achievement of the purposes and principles of the United Nations;

3. *Appeals* to Member States in each region that are able to do so, as well as to international governmental and non-governmental organizations and foundations, to make voluntary contributions to the regional centres in their respective regions in order to strengthen their activities and initiatives;

4. *Emphasizes* the importance of the activities of the Regional Disarmament Branch of the Office for Disarmament Affairs of the Secretariat;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide all support necessary, within existing resources, to the regional centres in carrying out their programmes of activities;

6. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-ninth session, under the item entitled "Review and implementation of the Concluding Document of the Twelfth Special Session of the General Assembly", the sub-item entitled "United Nations regional centres for peace and disarmament".

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5 December 2013

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[4] A/67/506-S/2012/752, annex I.

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Agenda item 100 (*b*)

Resolution adopted by the General Assembly on 5 December 2013

[*on the report of the First Committee (A/68/412)*]

68/58. Convention on the Prohibition of the Use of Nuclear Weapons

The General Assembly,

Convinced that the use of nuclear weapons poses the most serious threat to the survival of mankind,

Bearing in mind the advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice of 8 July 1996 on the legality of the threat or use of nuclear weapons,[1]

Convinced that a multilateral, universal and binding agreement prohibiting the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons would contribute to the elimination of the nuclear threat and to the climate for negotiations leading to the ultimate elimination of nuclear weapons, thereby strengthening international peace and security,

Conscious that some steps taken by the Russian Federation and the United States of America towards a reduction of their nuclear weapons and the improvement in the international climate can contribute towards the goal of the complete elimination of nuclear weapons,

Recalling that in paragraph 58 of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly[2] it is stated that all States should actively participate in efforts to bring about conditions in international relations among States in which a code of peaceful conduct of nations in international affairs could be agreed upon and which would preclude the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons,

Reaffirming that any use of nuclear weapons would be a violation of the Charter of the United Nations and a crime against humanity, as declared in its resolutions 1653 (XVI) of 24 November 1961, 33/71 B of 14 December 1978, 34/83 G of 11 December 1979, 35/152 D of 12 December 1980 and 36/92 I of 9 December 1981,

[1] A/51/218, annex.
[2] Resolution S-10/2.

Please recycle

Determined to achieve an international convention prohibiting the development, production, stockpiling and use of nuclear weapons, leading to their ultimate destruction,

Stressing that an international convention on the prohibition of the use of nuclear weapons would be an important step in a phased programme towards the complete elimination of nuclear weapons, with a specified framework of time,

Noting with regret that the Conference on Disarmament, during its 2013 session, was unable to undertake negotiations on this subject as called for in General Assembly resolution 67/64 of 3 December 2012,

1. *Reiterates its request* to the Conference on Disarmament to commence negotiations in order to reach agreement on an international convention prohibiting the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons under any circumstances;

2. *Requests* the Conference on Disarmament to report to the General Assembly on the results of those negotiations.

60th plenary meeting
5 December 2013

United Nations A/RES/68/59

General Assembly

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Agenda item 100 (*c*)

Resolution adopted by the General Assembly on 5 December 2013

[*on the report of the First Committee (A/68/412)*]

68/59. United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and the Pacific

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 42/39 D of 30 November 1987 and 44/117 F of 15 December 1989, by which it established the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and renamed it the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and the Pacific, with headquarters in Kathmandu and with the mandate of providing, on request, substantive support for the initiatives and other activities mutually agreed upon by the Member States of the Asia-Pacific region for the implementation of measures for peace and disarmament, through appropriate utilization of available resources,

Welcoming the physical operation of the Regional Centre from Kathmandu in accordance with General Assembly resolution 62/52 of 5 December 2007,

Recalling the mandate of the Regional Centre to provide, on request, substantive support for the initiatives and other activities mutually agreed upon by the Member States of the Asia-Pacific region for the implementation of measures for peace and disarmament,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General,[1] and expressing its appreciation to the Regional Centre for its important work in promoting confidence-building measures through the organization of meetings, conferences and workshops in the region, including the eleventh United Nations-Republic of Korea Joint Conference on Disarmament and Non-proliferation Issues, held on Jeju Island, Republic of Korea, on 3 and 4 December 2012; the national capacity-building workshop on the implementation of the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects, held in Bangkok from 11 to 13 December 2012; the Asia Regional Meeting to Facilitate Dialogue on the Arms Trade Treaty, held in Kuala Lumpur on 26 and

[1] A/68/112.

Please recycle

27 February 2013; and the twenty-fourth United Nations Conference on Disarmament Issues, on the theme "Creating a peaceful and safe future: pressing issues and potential solutions", held in Shizuoka, Japan, from 30 January to 1 February 2013,

Appreciating the timely execution by Nepal of its financial commitments for the physical operation of the Regional Centre,

1. *Expresses its satisfaction* at the activities carried out in the past year by the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and the Pacific, and invites all States of the region to continue to support the activities of the Regional Centre, including by continuing to take part in them, where possible, and by proposing items for inclusion in the programme of activities of the Centre, in order to contribute to the implementation of measures for peace and disarmament;

2. *Expresses its gratitude* to the Government of Nepal for its cooperation and financial support, which has enabled the Regional Centre to operate from Kathmandu;

3. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Secretary-General and the Office for Disarmament Affairs of the Secretariat for providing necessary support with a view to ensuring the smooth operation of the Regional Centre from Kathmandu and to enabling the Centre to function effectively;

4. *Appeals* to Member States, in particular those within the Asia-Pacific region, as well as to international governmental and non-governmental organizations and foundations, to make voluntary contributions, the only resources of the Regional Centre, to strengthen its programme of activities and the implementation thereof;

5. *Reaffirms its strong support* for the role of the Regional Centre in the promotion of activities of the United Nations at the regional level to strengthen peace, stability and security among its Member States;

6. *Underlines* the importance of the Kathmandu process for the development of the practice of region-wide security and disarmament dialogues;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-ninth session on the implementation of the present resolution;

8. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-ninth session, under the item entitled "Review and implementation of the Concluding Document of the Twelfth Special Session of the General Assembly", the sub-item entitled "United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and the Pacific".

60th plenary meeting
5 December 2013

General Assembly

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Agenda item 100 (*d*)

Resolution adopted by the General Assembly on 5 December 2013

[*on the report of the First Committee (A/68/412)*]

68/60. United Nations Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 41/60 J of 3 December 1986, 42/39 K of 30 November 1987 and 43/76 H of 7 December 1988 on the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean, with headquarters in Lima,

Recalling also its resolution 67/66 of 3 December 2012, as well as all previous resolutions entitled "United Nations Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean",

Recognizing that the Regional Centre has continued to provide substantive support for the implementation of regional and subregional initiatives and has intensified its contribution to the coordination of United Nations efforts towards peace and disarmament and for the promotion of economic and social development,

Reaffirming the mandate of the Regional Centre to provide, on request, substantive support for the initiatives and other activities of the Member States of the region for the implementation of measures for peace and disarmament and for the promotion of economic and social development,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General,[1] and expressing its appreciation for the important assistance provided, upon request, by the Regional Centre to several countries in the region, including through capacity-building and technical assistance programmes, as well as outreach activities, to prevent, combat and eradicate the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons, ammunition and explosives, for the development of plans to reduce and prevent armed violence from an arms control perspective, for promoting and supporting the implementation of relevant agreements and treaties and for capacity-building initiatives aimed at bolstering the efforts of the law enforcement community to combat the illicit trade in firearms,

[1] A/68/134.

Please recycle

Welcoming the support provided by the Regional Centre to Member States in the implementation of disarmament and non-proliferation instruments,

Emphasizing the need for the Regional Centre to develop and strengthen its activities and programmes in a comprehensive and balanced manner, in accordance with its mandate and in line with the requests for assistance by Member States,

Welcoming the ongoing support provided by the Regional Centre to Member States in the implementation of the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects,[2]

Welcoming also the assistance provided by the Regional Centre to some States, upon request, in the management and securing of national weapons stockpiles and in the identification and destruction of surplus, obsolete or seized weapons and ammunition, as declared by competent national authorities,

Welcoming further the initiative of the Regional Centre to continue to conduct activities in line with efforts to promote the equitable representation of women in all decision-making processes with regard to matters related to disarmament, non-proliferation and arms control, as encouraged in resolutions 65/69 of 8 December 2010 and 67/48 of 3 December 2012,

Recalling the report of the Group of Governmental Experts on the relationship between disarmament and development,[3] referred to in General Assembly resolution 59/78 of 3 December 2004, which is of utmost interest with regard to the role that the Regional Centre plays in promoting the issue in the region in pursuit of its mandate to promote economic and social development related to peace and disarmament,

Noting that security, disarmament and development issues have always been recognized as significant topics in Latin America and the Caribbean, the first inhabited region in the world to be declared a nuclear-weapon-free zone,

Emphasizing the importance of maintaining the support provided by the Regional Centre for strengthening the nuclear-weapon-free zone established by the Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean (Treaty of Tlatelolco),[4] as well as its efforts in promoting peace and disarmament education,

Bearing in mind the important role of the Regional Centre in promoting confidence-building measures, arms control and limitation, disarmament and development at the regional level,

Bearing in mind also the importance of information, research, education and training for peace, disarmament and development in order to achieve understanding and cooperation among States,

1. *Reiterates its strong support* for the role of the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean in the promotion of activities of the United Nations at the regional and subregional levels to strengthen peace, disarmament, stability, security and development among its Member States;

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[2] *Report of the United Nations Conference on the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects, New York, 9–20 July 2001* (A/CONF.192/15), chap. IV, para. 24.

[3] See A/59/119.

[4] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 634, No. 9068.

2. *Expresses its satisfaction* at the activities carried out in the past year by the Regional Centre, and requests the Centre to continue to take into account the proposals to be submitted by the countries of the region for the implementation of the mandate of the Centre in the areas of peace, disarmament and development and for the promotion of, inter alia, nuclear disarmament, the prevention, combating and eradication of the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons, ammunition and explosives, confidence-building measures, arms control and limitation, transparency, and the reduction and prevention of armed violence at the regional and subregional levels;

3. *Expresses its appreciation* for the political support provided by Member States, as well as for the financial contributions made by Member States, international governmental and non-governmental organizations and foundations, to strengthen the Regional Centre, its programme of activities and the implementation thereof, and encourages them to continue to make and to increase voluntary contributions;

4. *Invites* all States of the region to continue to take part in the activities of the Regional Centre, proposing items for inclusion in its programme of activities and making greater and better use of the potential of the Centre to meet the current challenges facing the international community with a view to fulfilling the aims of the Charter of the United Nations in the areas of peace, disarmament and development;

5. *Recognizes* that the Regional Centre has an important role in the promotion and development of regional and subregional initiatives agreed upon by the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean in the field of weapons of mass destruction, in particular nuclear weapons, and conventional arms, including small arms and light weapons, in the relationship between disarmament and development, in the promotion of the participation of women in this field and in strengthening voluntary confidence-building measures among the countries of the region;

6. *Encourages* the Regional Centre to further develop activities in all countries of the region in the important areas of peace, disarmament and development and to provide, upon request and in accordance with its mandate, support to Member States of the region in the national implementation of relevant instruments, inter alia, the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects[2] and the Arms Trade Treaty;[5]

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-ninth session on the implementation of the present resolution;

8. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-ninth session, under the item entitled "Review and implementation of the Concluding Document of the Twelfth Special Session of the General Assembly", the sub-item entitled "United Nations Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean".

50th plenary meeting
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[5] See resolution 67/234 B.

General Assembly

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Sixty-eighth session
Agenda item 100 (*e*)

Resolution adopted by the General Assembly on 5 December 2013

[*on the report of the First Committee (A/68/412)*]

68/61. United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa

The General Assembly,

Mindful of the provisions of Article 11, paragraph 1, of the Charter of the United Nations, in which it is stipulated that a function of the General Assembly is to consider the general principles of cooperation in the maintenance of international peace and security, including the principles governing disarmament and arms limitation,

Recalling its resolutions 40/151 G of 16 December 1985, 41/60 D of 3 December 1986, 42/39 J of 30 November 1987 and 43/76 D of 7 December 1988 on the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa and its resolutions 46/36 F of 6 December 1991 and 47/52 G of 9 December 1992 on regional disarmament, including confidence-building measures,

Recalling also its subsequent resolutions on the Regional Centre, the most recent of which is resolution 67/69 of 3 December 2012,

Recalling further its resolution 67/48 of 3 December 2012, in which the General Assembly recognized the role of women in disarmament, non-proliferation and arms control,

Reaffirming the role of the Regional Centre in promoting disarmament, peace and security at the regional level,

Welcoming the continuing and deepening cooperation between the Regional Centre, the African Union and African subregional organizations, in particular their institutions in the fields of disarmament, peace and security, as well as between the Centre and relevant United Nations bodies and programmes in Africa, and considering the communiqué adopted by the Peace and Security Council of the African Union at its 200th meeting, held in Addis Ababa on 21 August 2009,

Please recycle

Recalling the decision taken by the Executive Council of the African Union at its eighth ordinary session, held in Khartoum from 16 to 21 January 2006,[1] in which the Council called upon member States to make voluntary contributions to the Regional Centre to maintain its operations,

Recalling also the call by the Secretary-General for continued financial and in-kind support from Member States, which would enable the Regional Centre to discharge its mandate in full and to respond more effectively to requests for assistance from African States,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[2]

2. *Welcomes* the continental dimension of the activities of the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa in response to the evolving needs of African Member States and the region's new and emerging challenges in the areas of disarmament, peace and security, including maritime security;

3. *Also welcomes* the undertaking by the Regional Centre to provide capacity-building, technical assistance programmes and advisory services to the African Union Commission, subregional organizations and African Member States on the control of small arms and light weapons, including on stockpile management and destruction, the negotiations on the Arms Trade Treaty[3] and issues related to weapons of mass destruction, as detailed in the report of the Secretary-General;

4. *Further welcomes* the contribution of the Regional Centre to continental disarmament, peace and security, in particular its assistance to the African Union Commission in the elaboration of the African Union Strategy on the Control of Illicit Proliferation, Circulation and Trafficking of Small Arms and Light Weapons and the Action Plan for the Implementation of the Strategy and in the elaboration of the African Union Common Position on an Arms Trade Treaty, as well as its assistance to the African Commission on Nuclear Energy in its implementation of the African Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone Treaty (Treaty of Pelindaba);[4]

5. *Welcomes* efforts by the Regional Centre to promote the role and representation of women in disarmament, non-proliferation and arms control activities;

6. *Notes with appreciation* the tangible achievements of the Regional Centre and the impact of the assistance that it provided to Central African States in the elaboration and implementation of the Central African Convention for the Control of Small Arms and Light Weapons, Their Ammunition and All Parts and Components That Can Be Used for Their Manufacture, Repair and Assembly (Kinshasa Convention),[5] to Central and West African States in the elaboration of their respective common positions on the Arms Trade Treaty, to West Africa on the implementation of the Economic Community of West African States Convention on Small Arms and Light Weapons, Their Ammunition and Other Related Materials and on security sector reform initiatives and to East Africa on programmes to control

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[1] A/60/693, annex II, decision EX.CL/Dec.263 (VIII).

[2] A/68/114.

[3] See resolution 67/234 B.

[4] A/50/426, annex.

[5] See A/65/517-S/2010/534, annex.

brokering of small arms and light weapons, as well as the substantive support provided by the Centre to the United Nations Standing Advisory Committee on Security Questions in Central Africa;

7. *Commends* the Regional Centre for the support and assistance that it provided to African States in the preparation for the United Nations Conference on the Arms Trade Treaty, including through the organization of subregional and regional seminars and conferences, and calls upon the Centre to provide, upon request, substantive support to Member States of the region in implementing the Arms Trade Treaty;

8. *Urges* all States, as well as international governmental and non-governmental organizations and foundations, to make voluntary contributions to enable the Regional Centre to carry out its programmes and activities and meet the needs of the African States;

9. *Urges*, in particular, States members of the African Union to make voluntary contributions to the Trust Fund for the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa in conformity with the decision taken by the Executive Council of the African Union in Khartoum in January 2006;[1]

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to facilitate close cooperation between the Regional Centre and the African Union, in particular in the areas of disarmament, peace and security;

11. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to continue to provide the Regional Centre with the support necessary for greater achievements and results;

12. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-ninth session on the implementation of the present resolution;

13. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-ninth session, under the item entitled "Review and implementation of the Concluding Document of the Twelfth Special Session of the General Assembly", the sub-item entitled "United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa".

60th plenary meeting
5 December 2013

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Resolution adopted by the General Assembly on 5 December 2013

[*on the report of the First Committee (A/68/412)*]

68/62. Regional confidence-building measures: activities of the United Nations Standing Advisory Committee on Security Questions in Central Africa

The General Assembly,

Recalling its previous relevant resolutions, in particular resolution 67/70 of 3 December 2012,

Recalling also the guidelines for general and complete disarmament adopted at its tenth special session, the first special session devoted to disarmament,

Bearing in mind the establishment by the Secretary-General on 28 May 1992 of the United Nations Standing Advisory Committee on Security Questions in Central Africa, the purpose of which is to encourage arms limitation, disarmament, non-proliferation and development in the Central Africa subregion,

Reaffirming that the purpose of the Standing Advisory Committee is to conduct reconstruction and confidence-building activities in Central Africa among its member States, including through confidence-building and arms limitation measures, and welcoming the twentieth anniversary celebrations of the Committee, which took place on 7 December 2012 in Brazzaville under the chairmanship of the President of the Congo,

Recalling the Sao Tome Declaration on a Central African Common Position on the Arms Trade Treaty, adopted by the States members of the Standing Advisory Committee on 16 March 2011 at their thirty-second ministerial meeting, held in Sao Tome from 12 to 16 March 2011,[1]

Noting the outcome of the United Nations Conference on the Arms Trade Treaty, held in New York from 2 to 27 July 2012, and noting also the second United Nations Conference to Review Progress Made in the Implementation of the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects, held in New York from 27 August to 7 September 2012,

[1] See A/66/72-S/2011/225, annex.

Please recycle

Convinced that the resources released by disarmament, including regional disarmament, can be devoted to economic and social development and to the protection of the environment for the benefit of all peoples, in particular those of developing countries,

Welcoming the declaration on a road map for counter-terro[illegible] and non-proliferation of arms in Central Africa, adopted by the States [illegible]bers of the Standing Advisory Committee on 8 December 2011 at their thirty-third ministerial meeting, held in Bangui from 5 to 9 December 2011,[2] and the progress made towards its implementation,

Bearing in mind that the implementation of the road map should be compliant with relevant legal and administrative obligations, as set out in Security Council resolutions 1373 (2001) of 28 September 2001, 1624 (2005) of 14 September 2005 and 1963 (2010) of 20 December 2010, as well as with the four pillars of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy,[3]

Considering the importance and effectiveness of confidence-building measures taken on the initiative and with the participation of all States concerned and taking into account the specific characteristics of each region, since such measures can contribute to regional stability and to international peace and security,

Convinced that development can be achieved only in a climate of peace, security and mutual confidence both within and among States,

Recalling the Brazzaville Declaration on Cooperation for Peace and Security in Central Africa,[4] the Bata Declaration for the Promotion of Lasting Democracy, Peace and Development in Central Africa[5] and the Yaoundé Declaration on Peace, Security and Stability in Central Africa,[6]

Bearing in mind resolutions 1196 (1998) and 1197 (1998), adopted by the Security Council on 16 and 18 September 1998, respectively, following its consideration of the report of the Secretary-General on the causes of conflict and the promotion of durable peace and sustainable development in Africa,[7]

Welcoming the successful conclusion of the Summit of Heads of State and Government on Maritime Safety and Security in the Gulf of Guinea, held in Yaoundé on 24 and 25 June 2013,

Welcoming also the outcome of the high-level meeting on poaching and illicit wildlife trafficking, held on 26 September 2013 on the margins of the high-level segment of the sixty-eighth session of the General Assembly and hosted by Gabon and Germany,[8]

Emphasizing the need to strengthen the capacity for conflict prevention and peacekeeping in Africa, and noting in this regard the concrete conflict prevention initiatives facilitated by the Department of Political Affairs of the Secretariat,

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[2] A/67/72-S/2012/159, annex, attachment I.

[3] Resolution 60/288.

[4] A/50/474, annex I.

[5] A/53/258-S/1998/763, annex II, appendix I.

[6] A/53/868-S/1999/303, annex II.

[7] A/52/871-S/1998/318.

[8] A/68/553, annex.

Welcoming the close cooperation established between the United Nations Regional Office for Central Africa and the Economic Community of Central African States, as well as the signing of a framework of cooperation agreement between the two entities on 3 May 2012,

Bearing in mind the increased focus of the Standing Advisory Committee on human security questions, such as trafficking in persons, especially women and children, as an important consideration for subregional peace, stability and conflict prevention,

Expressing concern about the situation in the Central African Republic, and welcoming the efforts of the African Union and the Economic Community of Central African States, the adoption of the Kigali Declaration[9] by the States members of the Standing Advisory Committee on 23 August 2013 at their thirty-sixth ministerial meeting, held in Kigali from 20 to 23 August 2013, and the adoption of resolution 2121 (2013) of 10 October 2013 by the Security Council,

Expressing concern also about the increasing impact of cross-border criminality, in particular the activities of armed groups, such as the Lord's Resistance Army, and incidents of piracy in the Gulf of Guinea, on peace, security and development in Central Africa,

Considering the urgent need to prevent the possible movement of illicit weapons, mercenaries and combatants involved in conflicts in the Sahel and in neighbouring countries in the Central African subregion,

1. *Reaffirms its support* for efforts aimed at promoting confidence-building measures at the regional and subregional levels in order to ease tensions and conflicts in Central Africa and to further sustainable peace, stability and development in the subregion;

2. *Reaffirms* the importance of disarmament and arms limitation programmes in Central Africa carried out by the States of the subregion with the support of the United Nations, the African Union and other international partners;

3. *Welcomes* the steps taken by States members of the United Nations Standing Advisory Committee on Security Questions in Central Africa to facilitate the early entry into force of the Central African Convention for the Control of Small Arms and Light Weapons, Their Ammunition and All Parts and Components That Can Be Used for Their Manufacture, Repair and Assembly (Kinshasa Convention),[10] and encourages States members of the Standing Advisory Committee and other interested States to provide financial support for the implementation of the Convention;

4. *Encourages* the States members of the Standing Advisory Committee to implement the declaration on a road map for counter-terrorism and non-proliferation of arms in Central Africa,[2] and requests the United Nations Regional Office for Central Africa, the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa, the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1373 (2001) concerning counter-terrorism and the international community to support those measures;

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[9] A/68/384, annex.

[10] See A/65/517-S/2010/534, annex.

5. *Also encourages* the States members of the Standing Advisory Committee to carry out the programmes of activities adopted at their ministerial meetings;

6. *Appeals* to the international community to support the efforts undertaken by the States concerned to implement disarmament, demobilization and reintegration programmes;

7. *Welcomes* the adoption, during the Summit of Heads of State and Government on Maritime Safety and Security in the Gulf of Guinea, held in Yaoundé on 24 and 25 June 2013, of the Code of Conduct concerning the Prevention and Repression of Piracy, Armed Robbery against Ships, and Illegal Maritime Activity in West and Central Africa, which defines the regional maritime security strategy and paves the way for a legally binding instrument, and the decision to establish, in Cameroon, an interregional coordination centre responsible for coordinating the implementation of the regional strategy, and requests the Secretary-General to support the implementation of the outcomes of the Summit, including through the United Nations Regional Office for Central Africa;

8. *Expresses concern* over the negative impact that poaching and illegal wildlife trafficking have on the ecosystem, human development and regional security, and decides to take steps to develop a regional approach to counter this phenomenon;

9. *Expresses its full support* for the efforts of the Economic Community of Central African States, the African Union and the United Nations in the Central African Republic, and calls upon the international community to support these efforts;

10. *Encourages* the States members of the Standing Advisory Committee to pursue their discussions on concrete conflict prevention initiatives, and requests the assistance of the Secretary-General in this regard;

11. *Requests* the United Nations Regional Office for Central Africa, in collaboration with the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa, to facilitate the efforts undertaken by the States members of the Standing Advisory Committee, in particular for their execution of the Implementation Plan for the Kinshasa Convention, as adopted on 19 November 2010 at their thirty-first ministerial meeting, held in Brazzaville from 15 to 19 November 2010;[11]

12. *Requests* the Secretary-General and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees to continue to assist the countries of Central Africa in tackling the problems of refugees and displaced persons in their territories;

13. *Requests* the Secretary-General and the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to continue to provide their full assistance for the proper functioning of the Subregional Centre for Human Rights and Democracy in Central Africa;

14. *Reminds* the States members of the Standing Advisory Committee of the commitments they undertook on the adoption of the Declaration on the Trust Fund of the United Nations Standing Advisory Committee on Security Questions in Central Africa (Libreville Declaration)[12] on 8 May 2009, and invites those States members of the Committee that have not already done so to contribute to the Trust Fund;

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[11] See A/65/717-S/2011/53, annex.

[12] See A/64/85-S/2009/288, annex.

15. *Urges* other Member States and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to support the activities of the Standing Advisory Committee effectively through voluntary contributions to the Trust Fund;

16. *Urges* the States members of the Standing Advisory Committee, in accordance with Security Council resolution 1325 (2000) of 31 October 2000, to strengthen the gender component of the various meetings of the Committee relating to disarmament and international security;

17. *Expresses its satisfaction* to the Secretary-General for his support to the Standing Advisory Committee, welcomes the role played by the United Nations Regional Office for Central Africa since its opening, and strongly encourages the States members of the Committee and international partners to support the work of the Office;

18. *Welcomes* the efforts of the Standing Advisory Committee towards addressing cross-border security threats in Central Africa, including activities of the Lord's Resistance Army, and acts of piracy and armed robbery at sea in the Gulf of Guinea, as well as the fallout from the situation in Libya and the crisis in Mali, and also welcomes the role of the United Nations Regional Office for Central Africa in coordinating those efforts, working closely with the Economic Community of Central African States, the African Union and all relevant regional and international partners;

19. *Expresses its satisfaction* to the Secretary-General for his support for the revitalization of the activities of the Standing Advisory Committee, and requests him to continue to provide the assistance needed to ensure the success of its regular biannual meetings;

20. *Calls upon* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-ninth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution;

21. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-ninth session, under the item entitled "Review and implementation of the Concluding Document of the Twelfth Special Session of the General Assembly", the sub-item entitled "Regional confidence-building measures: activities of the United Nations Standing Advisory Committee on Security Questions in Central Africa".

60th plenary meeting
5 December 2013